

SA 2049. Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2050. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2051. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2052. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

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SA 2054. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2055. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2056. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2057. Mr. UDALL, of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2058. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2059. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2060. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2061. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2062. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2063. Mrs. MCCASKILL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2064. Mrs. MCCASKILL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2065. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2066. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2067. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2068. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2069. Mr. ALEXANDER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2070. Mr. ALEXANDER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2071. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2072. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2073. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2074. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2075. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2076. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2033. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE V—COMMISSION ON POSTAL REORGANIZATION

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Commission on Postal Reorganization Act” or the “CPR Act”.

SEC. 502. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this title—

(1) the term “Postal Service” means the United States Postal Service;

(2) the term “postal retail facility” means a post office, post office branch, post office classified station, or other facility which is operated by the Postal Service, and the primary function of which is to provide retail postal services;

(3) the term “mail processing facility” means a processing and distribution center, processing and distribution facility, network distribution center, or other facility which is operated by the Postal Service, and the primary function of which is to sort and process mail;

(4) the term “district office” means the central office of an administrative field unit with responsibility for postal operations in a designated geographic area (as defined under regulations, directives, or other guidance of the Postal Service, as in effect on June 23, 2011);

(5) the term “area office” means the central office of an administrative field unit with responsibility for postal operations in a designated geographic area which is comprised of designated geographic areas as referred to in paragraph (4); and

(6) the term “baseline year” means the fiscal year last ending before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 503. COMMISSION ON POSTAL REORGANIZATION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be established, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, an independent

commission to be known as the “Commission on Postal Reorganization” (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) DUTIES.—The Commission shall carry out the duties specified for it in this title.

(c) MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of 5 members who shall be appointed by the President, and of whom—

(A) 1 shall be appointed from among individuals recommended by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(B) 1 shall be appointed from among individuals recommended by the majority leader of the Senate;

(C) 1 shall be appointed from among individuals recommended by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(D) 1 shall be appointed from among individuals recommended by the minority leader of the Senate; and

(E) 1 shall be appointed from among individuals recommended by the Comptroller General.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Members of the Commission shall be chosen to represent the public interest generally, and shall not be representatives of specific interests using the Postal Service.

(B) INELIGIBILITY.—An individual may not be appointed to serve as a member of the Commission if such individual served as an employee of the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission, or of a labor organization representing employees of the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission, during the 3-year period ending on the date of such appointment.

(3) POLITICAL AFFILIATION.—Not more than 3 members of the Commission may be of the same political party.

(d) TERMS.—Each member of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission and may be removed only for cause.

(e) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(f) CHAIRMAN.—The President shall, at the time of making appointments under subsection (c), designate one of the members to serve as chairman of the Commission.

(g) COMPENSATION AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

(1) COMPENSATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), each member of the Commission shall be paid at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of \$40,000 per year for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the actual performance of duties vested in the Commission.

(B) EXCEPTION.—Any member of the Commission who is a full-time officer or employee of the United States may not receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of such member’s service on the Commission.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions of subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(h) DIRECTOR.—The Commission shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Commission. The Director shall be paid at the rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code. An appointment under this subsection shall be subject to the requirements of subsection (c)(2).

(i) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—With the approval of the Commission, the Director may appoint and fix the pay of such additional personnel as the Director considers appropriate. Such additional personnel may be appointed without regard to the provisions of

title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that an individual so appointed may not receive pay at a rate of basic pay in excess of the rate of basic pay payable to the Director. An individual appointed under this subsection shall serve at the pleasure of the Director.

(j) PROVISIONS RELATING TO DETAILS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon request of the Director, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail any of the personnel of such department or agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties under this title. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, to provide continuity in the work of the Commission, such details may be extended beyond 1 year at the request of the Director.

(2) NUMERICAL LIMITATION.—Not more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the personnel of the Commission may consist of the number of individuals on detail from the Postal Service and the Postal Regulatory Commission combined.

(3) OTHER LIMITATIONS.—A person may not be detailed to the Commission from the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission if such person participated personally and substantially on any matter, within the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission, concerning the preparation of recommendations for closures or consolidations of postal facilities under this title. No employee of the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission (including a detailee to the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission) may—

(A) prepare any report concerning the effectiveness, fitness, or efficiency of the performance, on the staff of the Commission, of any person detailed from the Postal Service or the Postal Regulatory Commission to such staff;

(B) review the preparation of such a report; or

(C) approve or disapprove such a report.

(k) OTHER AUTHORITIES.—

(1) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission may procure by contract, to the extent funds are available, temporary or intermittent services under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) LEASING, ETC.—The Commission may lease space and acquire personal property to the extent funds are available.

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In order to carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated out of the Postal Service Fund \$20,000,000, which funds shall remain available until expended.

(m) FINANCIAL REPORTING.—

(1) AUDIT AND EXPENDITURES.—The Commission shall be responsible for issuing annual financial statements and for establishing and maintaining adequate controls over its financial reporting.

(2) INTERNAL AUDITS.—The Commission shall maintain an adequate internal audit of its financial transactions.

(3) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—The Commission shall obtain an annual certification for each fiscal year from an independent, certified public accounting firm of the accuracy of its financial statements.

(4) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The accounts and operations of the Commission shall be audited by the Comptroller General and reports thereon made to the Congress to the extent and at such times as the Comptroller General may determine.

(n) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate 60 days after submitting its final reports under section 504(d)(3).

SEC. 504. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CLOSURES AND CONSOLIDATIONS.

(a) PLAN FOR THE CLOSURE OR CONSOLIDATION OF POSTAL RETAIL FACILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Postal Service, in consultation with the Postal Regulatory Commission, shall develop and submit to the Commission on Postal Reorganization a plan for the closure or consolidation of such postal retail facilities as the Postal Service considers necessary and appropriate so that the total annual costs attributable to the operation of postal retail facilities will be, for each fiscal year beginning at least 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to this subsection, at least \$1,000,000,000 less than the corresponding total annual costs for the baseline year.

(2) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include—

(A) a list of the postal retail facilities proposed for closure or consolidation under this title;

(B) a proposed schedule under which—

(i) closures and consolidations of postal retail facilities would be carried out under this title; and

(ii) all closures and consolidations of postal retail facilities under this title would be completed by not later than 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to such plan;

(C) the estimated total annual cost savings attributable to the proposed closures and consolidations described in the plan;

(D) the criteria and process used to develop the information described in subparagraphs (A) and (B);

(E) the methodology and assumptions used to derive the estimates described in subparagraph (C); and

(F) any changes to the processing, transportation, delivery, or other postal operations anticipated as a result of the proposed closures and consolidations described in the plan.

(3) CONSISTENCY.—The methodology and assumptions used to derive the cost estimates described in paragraph (2)(C) shall be consistent with the methodology and assumptions which would have been used by the Postal Service if those closures and consolidations had instead taken effect in the baseline year.

(b) PLAN FOR THE CLOSURE OR CONSOLIDATION OF MAIL PROCESSING FACILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 300 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Postal Service, in consultation with the Inspector General of the United States Postal Service, shall develop and submit to the Commission on Postal Reorganization a plan for the closure or consolidation of such mail processing facilities as the Postal Service considers necessary and appropriate so that—

(A) the total annual costs attributable to the operation of mail processing facilities will be, for each fiscal year beginning at least 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to this subsection, at least \$2,000,000,000 less than the corresponding total annual costs for the baseline year; and

(B) the Postal Service has, for fiscal years beginning at least 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to this subsection, no more than 10 percent excess mail processing capacity.

(2) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include—

(A) a list of the mail processing facilities proposed for closure or consolidation under this title;

(B) a proposed schedule under which—

(i) closures and consolidations of mail processing facilities would be carried out under this title; and

(ii) all closures and consolidations of mail processing facilities under this title would be completed by not later than 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to such plan;

(C) the estimated total annual cost savings attributable to the proposed closures and consolidations described in the plan;

(D) the criteria and process used to develop the information described in subparagraphs (A) and (B);

(E) the methodology and assumptions used to derive the estimates described in subparagraph (C); and

(F) any changes to the processing, transportation, delivery, or other postal operations anticipated as a result of the proposed closures and consolidations described in the plan.

(3) CONSISTENCY.—The methodology and assumptions used to derive the cost estimates described in paragraph (2)(C) shall be consistent with the methodology and assumptions which would have been used by the Postal Service if those closures and consolidations had instead taken effect in the baseline year.

(4) EXCESS MAIL PROCESSING CAPACITY.—The Commission shall cause to be published in the Federal Register notice of a proposed definition of “excess mail processing capacity” for purposes of this section within 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall provide a period of 30 days for public comment on the proposed definition. Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall issue and cause to be published in the Federal Register a final definition of “excess mail processing capacity” for purposes of this section. Such definition shall include an estimate of the total amount of excess mail processing capacity in mail processing facilities as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(5) UNDERUTILIZED MAIL PROCESSING FACILITIES.—In developing a plan under this subsection, the Postal Service may include the estimated total cost savings that would result from moving mail processing operations to any mail processing facility that, as of the date of introduction of this Act—

(A) is not currently used by the Postal Service; and

(B) is capable of processing mail to the Postal Service’s standards.

(c) PLAN FOR THE CLOSURE OR CONSOLIDATION OF AREA AND DISTRICT OFFICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 300 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Postal Service, in consultation with the Inspector General of the United States Postal Service, shall develop and submit to the Commission on Postal Reorganization a plan for the closure or consolidation of such area and district offices as the Postal Service considers necessary and appropriate so that the combined total number of area and district offices will be, for each fiscal year beginning at least 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to this subsection, at least 30 percent less than the corresponding combined total for the baseline year.

(2) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include—

(A) a list of the area and district offices proposed for closure or consolidation under this title;

(B) a proposed schedule under which—

(i) closures and consolidations of area and district offices would be carried out under this title; and

(ii) all closures and consolidations of area and district offices under this title would be completed by not later than 2 years after the date on which the Commission transmits to Congress its final report under subsection (d)(3)(A) relating to such plan;

(C) the estimated total annual cost savings attributable to the proposed closures and consolidations described in the plan;

(D) the criteria and process used to develop the information described in subparagraphs (A) and (B);

(E) the methodology and assumptions used to derive the estimates described in subparagraph (C); and

(F) any changes to the processing, transportation, delivery, or other postal operations anticipated as a result of the proposed closures and consolidations described in the plan.

(3) **CONSISTENCY.**—The methodology and assumptions used to derive the cost estimates described in paragraph (2)(C) shall be consistent with the methodology and assumptions which would have been used by the Postal Service if those closures and consolidations had instead taken effect in the base-line year.

(d) **REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.**—

(1) **INITIAL REPORTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—After receiving the plan of the Postal Service under subsection (a), (b), or (c), the Commission on Postal Reorganization shall transmit to Congress and publish in the Federal Register a report under this paragraph, which shall contain the Commission's findings based on a review and analysis of such plan, together with the Commission's initial recommendations for closures and consolidations of postal facilities, mail processing facilities, or area and district offices (as the case may be).

(B) **EXPLANATION OF CHANGES.**—The Commission shall explain and justify in its report any recommendations made by the Commission that are different from those contained in the Postal Service plan to which such report pertains.

(C) **DEADLINES.**—A report of the Commission under this paragraph shall be transmitted and published, in accordance with subparagraph (A), within—

(i) if the report pertains to the plan under subsection (a), 60 days after the date on which the Commission receives such plan; or

(ii) if the report pertains to the plan under subsection (b) or (c), 90 days after the date on which the Commission receives such plan.

(2) **PUBLIC HEARINGS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—After receiving the plan of the Postal Service under subsection (a), (b), or (c), the Commission on Postal Reorganization shall conduct at least 5 public hearings on such plan. The hearings shall be conducted in geographic areas chosen so as to reflect a broadly representative range of needs and interests.

(B) **TESTIMONY.**—All testimony before the Commission at a public hearing conducted under this paragraph shall be given under oath.

(C) **DEADLINES.**—All hearings under this paragraph shall be completed within 60 days after the date as of which the Commission satisfies the requirements of paragraph (1) with respect to such plan.

(3) **FINAL REPORTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—After satisfying the requirements of paragraph (2) with respect to the plan of the Postal Service under subsection (a), (b), or (c) (as the case may be), the Commission shall transmit to Congress and publish in the Federal Register a report under this paragraph containing a summary of the hearings conducted with respect to such plan, together with the Commission's final recommendations for closures and con-

solidations of postal facilities, mail processing facilities, or area and district offices (as the case may be).

(B) **APPROVAL.**—Recommendations under subparagraph (A) shall not be considered to be final recommendations unless they are made with—

(i) except as provided in clause (ii), the concurrence of at least 4 members of the Commission; or

(ii) to the extent that the requirements of subsection (b)(1)(A) or (c)(1) are not met, the concurrence of all sitting members, but only if the shortfall (relative to the requirements of subsection (b)(1)(A) or (c)(1), as the case may be) does not exceed 25 percent.

(C) **CONTENTS.**—A report under this paragraph shall include—

(i) the information required by paragraph (2) of subsection (a), (b), or (c) (as the case may be); and

(ii) a description of the operations that will be affected by the closure or consolidation and the facilities or offices which will be performing or ceasing to perform such operations as a result of such closure or consolidation.

(D) **DEADLINES.**—A report of the Commission under this paragraph shall be transmitted and published, in accordance with subparagraph (A), within 60 days after the date as of which the Commission satisfies the requirements of paragraph (2) with respect to the plan involved.

(e) **LIMITATION RELATING TO POSTAL RETAIL FACILITIES IDENTIFIED FOR CLOSURE OR CONSOLIDATION.**—

(1) **APPLICABILITY.**—This subsection applies to any plan of the Postal Service under subsection (a) and any report of the Commission under subsection (d) (whether initial or final) pertaining to such plan.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—Of the total number of postal retail facilities recommended for closure or consolidation (combined) under any plan or report to which this subsection applies, the number of such facilities that are within the K or L cost ascertainment grouping (combined) shall account for not more than 10 percent of such total number.

(3) **REFERENCES.**—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) any reference to a “cost ascertainment grouping” shall be considered to refer to a cost ascertainment grouping as described in section 123.11 of the Postal Operations Manual (as in effect on June 23, 2011); and

(B) any reference to a particular category (designated by a letter) of a cost ascertainment grouping shall be considered to refer to such category, as described in such section 123.11 (as in effect on the date specified in subparagraph (A)).

(f) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There shall be included in the next 5 annual reports submitted under section 2402 of title 39, United States Code, beginning with the report covering any period of time occurring after the date of enactment of this Act, the following (shown on a State-by-State basis):

(A) In connection with closures and consolidations taking effect in the year covered by the report, the total number of individuals separated from employment with the Postal Service, including, if separation occurs in a year other than the year in which the closing or consolidation occurs, the year in which separation occurs.

(B) Of the total numbers under subparagraph (A)—

(i) the number and percentage comprising preference eligibles or veterans; and

(ii) the number and percentage comprising individuals other than preference eligibles or veterans.

(C) Of the total numbers under subparagraph (A), the number and percentage reem-

ployed in a position within the general commuting area of the facility or office involved (including, if reemployment occurs in a year other than the year in which the closing or consolidation occurs, the year in which reemployment occurs)—

(i) with the Postal Service; or

(ii) with an employer other than the Postal Service.

(D) The methodology and assumptions used to derive the estimates described in subparagraph (B).

(E) The criteria and process used to develop the information described in subparagraph (C).

(2) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) the term “preference eligible” has the meaning given such term in section 2108(3) of title 5, United States Code; and

(B) the term “veteran” has the meaning given such term in section 101(2) of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 505. IMPLEMENTATION OF CLOSURES AND CONSOLIDATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subsection (b), the Postal Service shall—

(1) close or consolidate (as the case may be) the facilities and offices recommended by the Commission in each of its final reports under section 504(d)(3); and

(2) carry out those closures and consolidations in accordance with the timetable recommended by the Commission in such report, except that in no event shall any such closure or consolidation be completed later than 2 years after the date on which such report is submitted to Congress.

(b) **CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Postal Service may not carry out any closure or consolidation recommended by the Commission in a final report if a joint resolution disapproving the recommendations of the Commission is enacted, in accordance with section 506, before the earlier of—

(A) the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Commission transmits those recommendations to Congress under section 504(d)(3); or

(B) the adjournment of the Congress sine die for the session during which such report is transmitted.

(2) **DAYS OF SESSION.**—For purposes of paragraph (1) and subsections (a) and (c) of section 506, the days on which either House of Congress is not in session because of an adjournment of more than 7 days to a day certain shall be excluded in the computation of a period.

SEC. 506. CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF FINAL CPR REPORTS.

(a) **TERMS OF THE RESOLUTION.**—For purposes of this title, the term “joint resolution”, as used with respect to a report under section 504(d)(3), means only a joint resolution—

(1) which is introduced within the 10-day period beginning on the date on which such report is received by Congress;

(2) the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: “That Congress disapproves the recommendations of the Commission on Postal Reorganization, submitted by such Commission on ____, and pertaining to the closure or consolidation of ____, the first blank space being filled in with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled in with “postal retail facilities”, “mail processing facilities”, or “area and district offices” (as the case may be);

(3) the title of which is as follows: “Joint resolution disapproving the recommendations of the Commission on Postal Reorganization.”; and

(4) which does not have a preamble.

(b) **REFERRAL.**—A resolution described in subsection (a) that is introduced in the

House of Representatives or the Senate shall be referred to the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives or the Senate, respectively.

(c) **DISCHARGE.**—If the committee to which a resolution described in subsection (a) is referred has not reported such resolution (or an identical resolution) by the end of the 20-day period beginning on the date on which the Commission transmits the report (to which such resolution pertains) to Congress under section 504(d)(3), such committee shall, at the end of such period, be discharged from further consideration of such resolution, and such resolution shall be placed on the appropriate calendar of the House involved.

(d) **CONSIDERATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—On or after the third day after the date on which the committee to which such a resolution is referred has reported, or has been discharged (under subsection (c)) from further consideration of, such a resolution, it is in order (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) for any Member of the respective House to move to proceed to the consideration of the resolution. A Member may make the motion only on the day after the calendar day on which the Member announces to the House concerned the Member's intention to make the motion, except that, in the case of the House of Representatives, the motion may be made without such prior announcement if the motion is made by direction of the committee to which the resolution was referred. All points of order against the resolution (and against consideration of the resolution) are waived. The motion is highly privileged in the House of Representatives and is privileged in the Senate and is not debatable. The motion is not subject to amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the resolution is agreed to, the respective House shall immediately proceed to consideration of the joint resolution without intervening motion, order, or other business, and the resolution shall remain the unfinished business of the respective House until disposed of.

(2) **DEBATE.**—Debate on the resolution, and on all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 2 hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and those opposing the resolution. An amendment to the resolution is not in order. A motion further to limit debate is in order and not debatable. A motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to recommit the resolution is not in order. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the resolution is agreed to or disagreed to is not in order.

(3) **VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE.**—Immediately following the conclusion of the debate on a resolution described in subsection (a) and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the appropriate House, the vote on final passage of the resolution shall occur.

(4) **APPEALS.**—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate or the House of Representatives, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a resolution described in subsection (a) shall be decided without debate.

(e) **CONSIDERATION BY OTHER HOUSE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If, before the passage by one House of a resolution of that House described in subsection (a), that House receives from the other House a resolution (described

in subsection (a)) relating to the same report, then the following procedures shall apply:

(A) The resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee and may not be considered in the House receiving it except in the case of final passage as provided in subparagraph (B)(ii).

(B) With respect to the resolution described in subsection (a) (relating to the report in question) of the House receiving the resolution—

(i) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no resolution (relating to the same report) had been received from the other House; but

(ii) the vote on final passage shall be on the resolution of the other House.

(2) **DISPOSITION OF A RESOLUTION.**—Upon disposition of the resolution received from the other House, it shall no longer be in order to consider the resolution that originated in the receiving House.

(f) **RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE.**—This section is enacted by Congress—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a resolution described in subsection (a), and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

SEC. 507. NONAPPEALABILITY OF DECISIONS.

(a) **TO PRC.**—The closing or consolidation of any facility or office under this title may not be appealed to the Postal Regulatory Commission under section 404(d) or any other provision of title 39, United States Code, or be the subject of an advisory opinion issued by the Postal Regulatory Commission under section 3661 of such title.

(b) **JUDICIAL REVIEW.**—No process, report, recommendation, or other action of the Commission on Postal Reorganization shall be subject to judicial review.

SEC. 508. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) **CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF AUTHORITY TO CLOSE OR CONSOLIDATE POSTAL FACILITIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Nothing in this title shall be considered to prevent the Postal Service from closing or consolidating any postal facilities, in accordance with otherwise applicable provisions of law, either before or after the implementation of any closures or consolidations under this title.

(2) **COORDINATION RULE.**—No appeal or determination under section 404(d) of title 39, United States Code, or any other provision of law shall delay, prevent, or otherwise affect any closure or consolidation under this title.

(b) **INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The provisions of law identified in paragraph (2)—

(A) shall not apply to any closure or consolidation carried out under this title; and

(B) shall not be taken into account for purposes of carrying out section 503 or 504.

(2) **PROVISIONS IDENTIFIED.**—The provisions of law under this paragraph are—

(A) section 101(b) of title 39, United States Code; and

(B) section 404(d) of title 39, United States Code.

SEC. 509. REPEALS.

Sections 202, 203, 204, and 205 of this Act, and the amendments made by those sections, shall have no force or effect.

SA 2034. Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike title III and insert the following:

TITLE III—FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ACT

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Federal Workers' Compensation Modernization and Improvement Act".

SEC. 302. PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES.

(a) **DEFINITION OF MEDICAL SERVICES.**—Section 8101(3) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "law. Reimbursable" and inserting "law (reimbursable)"; and

(2) by inserting before the semicolon, the following: ", and medical services may include treatment by a physician assistant or advanced practice nurse, such as a nurse practitioner, within the scope of their practice as defined by State law, consistent with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor)".

(b) **MEDICAL SERVICES AND OTHER BENEFITS.**—Section 8103 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a), the following:

"(b) Medical services furnished or prescribed pursuant to subsection (a) may include treatment by a physician assistant or advanced practice nurse, such as a nurse practitioner, within the scope of their practice as defined by State law, consistent with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor.".

(c) **CERTIFICATION OF TRAUMATIC INJURY.**—Section 8121(6) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the period, the following: "(except that in a case of a traumatic injury, a physician assistant or advanced practice nurse, such as a nurse practitioner, within the scope of their practice as defined by State law, may also provide certification of such traumatic injury and related disability during the continuation of pay period covered by section 8118, in a manner consistent with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor)".

SEC. 303. COVERING TERRORISM INJURIES.

Section 8102(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(1) by inserting "or from an attack by a terrorist or terrorist organization, either known or unknown," after "force or individual,"; and

(2) by striking "outside" and all that follows through "1979" and inserting "outside of the United States".

SEC. 304. DISFIGUREMENT.

Section 8107(c)(21) of title 5, United States Code—

(1) by striking "For" and inserting the following: "(A) Except as provided under subparagraph (B), for"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for an injury occurring during the 3-year period prior to the date of enactment of the Federal Workers' Compensation Modernization and Improvement Act for which the Secretary of Labor has not made a compensation determination on disfigurement under subparagraph (A), or for an injury occurring

on or after the date of enactment of such Act resulting in a serious disfigurement of the face, head, or neck, proper and equitable compensation in proportion to the severity of the disfigurement, not to exceed \$50,000, as determined by the Secretary, shall be awarded in addition to any other compensation payable under this schedule. The applicable maximum compensation for disfigurement provided under this subparagraph shall be adjusted annually on March 1 in accordance with the percentage amount determined by the cost of living adjustment in section 8146a.”.

SEC. 305. SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS INFORMATION.

Section 8116 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Labor may require, as a condition of receiving any benefits under this subchapter, that a claimant for such benefits consent to the release by the Social Security Administration of the Social Security earnings information of such claimant.”.

SEC. 306. CONTINUATION OF PAY IN A ZONE OF ARMED CONFLICT.

Section 8118 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “Continuation” and inserting “Except as provided under subsection (e)(2), continuation”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “subsections (a) and (b)” and inserting “subsections (a) and (b) or subsection (e).”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsection (a) or (e)”;

(4) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(5) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) CONTINUATION OF PAY IN A ZONE OF ARMED CONFLICT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the United States shall authorize the continuation of pay of an employee as defined in section 8101(1) of this title (other than those referred to in subparagraph (B) or (E)), who has filed a claim for a period of wage loss due to traumatic injury in performance of duty in a zone of armed conflict (as so determined by the Secretary of Labor under paragraph (3)), as long as the employee files a claim for such wage loss benefit with his immediate superior not later than 45 days following termination of assignment to the zone of armed conflict or return to the United States, whichever occurs later.

“(2) CONTINUATION OF PAY.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), continuation of pay under this subsection shall be furnished for a period not to exceed 135 days without any break in time or waiting period, unless controverted under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor.

“(3) DETERMINATION OF ZONES OF ARMED CONFLICT.—For purposes of this subsection, the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, shall determine whether a foreign country or other foreign geographic area outside of the United States (as that term is defined in section 202(7) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 4302(7))) is a zone of armed conflict based on whether—

“(A) the Armed Forces of the United States are involved in hostilities in the country or area;

“(B) the incidence of civil insurrection, civil war, terrorism, or wartime conditions threatens physical harm or imminent danger to the health or well-being of United States civilian employees in the country or area;

“(C) the country or area has been designated a combat zone by the President under section 112(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 112(c));

“(D) a contingency operation involving combat operations directly affects civilian employees in the country or area; or

“(E) there exist other relevant conditions and factors.”.

SEC. 307. SUBROGATION OF CONTINUATION OF PAY.

(a) SUBROGATION OF THE UNITED STATES.—Section 8131 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “continuation of pay or” before “compensation”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by inserting “continuation of pay or” before “compensation already paid”.

(b) ADJUSTMENT AFTER RECOVERY FROM A THIRD PERSON.—Section 8132 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “continuation of pay or” before “compensation” the first, second, fourth, and fifth place it appears;

(2) by striking “in his behalf” and inserting “on his behalf”; and

(3) by inserting “continuation of pay and” before “compensation” the third place it appears.

SEC. 308. FUNERAL EXPENSES.

Section 8134 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “If” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (b), if”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), for deaths occurring on or after the date of enactment of the Federal Workers’ Compensation Modernization and Improvement Act, if death results from an injury sustained in the performance of duty, the United States shall pay, to the personal representative of the deceased or otherwise, funeral and burial expenses not to exceed \$6,000, in the discretion of the Secretary of Labor. The applicable maximum compensation for burial expenses provided under this subsection shall be adjusted annually on March 1 in accordance with the percentage amount determined by the cost of living adjustment in section 8146a.”.

SEC. 309. EMPLOYEES’ COMPENSATION FUND.

Section 8147 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “except administrative expenses” and inserting “including administrative expenses”; and

(B) by striking the last 2 sentences; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the first sentence, by inserting before the period “and an estimate of a pro-rata share of the amount of funds necessary to administer this subchapter for the fiscal year beginning in the next calendar year”; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “costs” and inserting “amount set out in the statement of costs and administrative expenses furnished pursuant to this subsection”.

SEC. 310. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

Section 8101(1)(D) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the semicolon “who suffered an injury on or prior to March 3, 1979”.

SEC. 311. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as otherwise provided, this title and the amendments made by this title, shall take effect 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 312. PAYGO COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

SA 2035. Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike title III.

SA 2036. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . SENSE OF THE SENATE.

It is the sense of the Senate that the Postal Service should not close or consolidate any postal facility (as defined in section 404(f) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this Act) or post office before the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2037. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 35, line 16, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

“(10) PROHIBITION ON CLOSING, CONSOLIDATION, AND REDUCTION IN WORKFORCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Postal Service conducted an area mail processing study after June 1, 2001 with respect to a postal facility which was terminated or concluded that no significant cost savings or efficiencies would result from closing, consolidating, or reducing the number of employees of the postal facility, the Postal Service may not—

“(i) close the postal facility;

“(ii) consolidate the postal facility; or

“(iii) involuntarily separate an employee of the postal facility from service, except for removal for cause on charges of misconduct or delinquency.

“(B) APPLICATION.—Subparagraph (A) shall apply with respect to a postal facility that was not closed or consolidated before May 15, 2012, without regard to the conclusions of any area mail processing study conducted with respect to the postal facility after the publication of an area mail processing study described in subparagraph (A).”.

SA 2038. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title II, add the following:

SEC. . ENDING THE POSTAL SERVICE MONOPOLY ON FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND MAILBOX USE.

(a) ENDING THE FIRST-CLASS MAIL MONOPOLY.—

(1) TITLE 18.—Chapter 83 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking sections 1694, 1695, 1696, and 1697.

(2) TITLE 39.—Chapter 6 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

- (A) by striking sections 601 and 602; and
- (B) by adding at the end the following:

“§ 607. Limitation on authorization for searches, seizures, detention, inspections, and examinations of mail matter

“(a) LIMITATION RELATING TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.—Subject to subsection (b), and notwithstanding sections 603, 604, 605, and 606, or any other provision of law, the Postal Service, and any authorized officer or employee of the Postal Service, may not search, seize, detain, inspect, or examine any mail matter that is located on private property or in a private vehicle.

“(b) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall not apply to mail matter that—

- “(1) an individual voluntarily places in—
 - “(A) the mail; or
 - “(B) a letter box or post office box; or
- “(2) is otherwise placed in the possession of the Postal Service before the mail matter is searched, seized, detained, inspected, or examined by the Postal Service or any authorized officer or employee of the Postal Service.”.

(b) ENDING THE MAILBOX USE MONOPOLY.—Section 1725 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “established, approved, or accepted” and all that follows through “mail route” and inserting “or post office box owned by the Postal Service or located on Postal Service property”.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Postal Service shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the amendments made by this section.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TITLE 18.—The table of sections for chapter 83 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking the items relating to sections 1694, 1695, 1696, and 1697.

(2) TITLE 39.—The table of sections for chapter 6 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

- (A) by striking the items relating to sections 601 and 602; and
- (B) by adding at the end the following:

“607. Limitation on authorization for searches, seizures, detention, inspections, and examinations of mail matter.”.

(3) OTHER TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Postal Service shall submit to Congress a list of any technical and conforming amendments that are necessary to carry out the amendments made by this section.

SA 2039. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 107. PROHIBITION ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1206 of title 39 is amended to read as follows:

“§ 1206. Prohibition on collective-bargaining agreements

“The Postal Service may not enter into a collective-bargaining agreement with any labor organization.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 12 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 1202—

(A) in the section heading, by striking “Bargaining units” and inserting “Employee organizations”;

(B) by striking the first sentence; and

(C) by striking “The National Labor Relations Board shall not include in any bargaining unit—” and inserting “An organization of employees of the United States Postal Service shall not include—”;

(2) in section 1203, by striking subsections (c), (d), and (e);

(3) in section 1204(a), by striking “shall be conducted under the supervision of the National Labor Relations Board, or persons designated by it, and”;

(4) in section 1205(a), by striking “not subject to collective-bargaining agreements”;

(5) by striking sections 1207, 1208, and 1209; and

(6) in the table of sections—

(A) by striking the item relating to section 1202 and inserting the following:

“1203. Employee organizations.”; and

(B) by striking the items relating to sections 1206, 1207, 1208, and 1209 and inserting the following:

“1206. Prohibition on collective-bargaining agreements.”.

SA 2040. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 35, line 16, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

“(10) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, the Postal Service may not close or consolidate a postal facility that is more than 50 miles from the nearest postal facility.”.

SA 2041. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___ MORATORIUM ON CLOSING AND CONSOLIDATING POSTAL FACILITIES.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “postal facility” has the same meaning as in section 404(f) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this section.

(b) MORATORIUM.—Notwithstanding subsection (f) of section 404 of title 39, United States Code, as added by this section, or any other provision of law, during the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Postal Service may not close or consolidate a postal facility.

SA 2042. Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LEAHY, and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___ MAINTENANCE OF DELIVERY SERVICE STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “2011 market-dominant product service standards” means the expected delivery time

for market-dominant products entered into the network of sectional center facilities that existed on September 15, 2011, under part 121 of title 39, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on March 14, 2010).

(2) MAINTENANCE OF DELIVERY TIME.—Notwithstanding subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 3691 of title 39, United States Code, the Postal Service may not increase the expected delivery time for market-dominant products, relative to the 2011 market-dominant product service standards, earlier than the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) POSTAL FACILITIES.—Section 404(f) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this Act, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (6)(C)—

(i) by striking “3-year period” and inserting “4-year period”; and

(ii) by striking “section 201 of”; and

(B) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “, including the service standards established under section 201 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “, including the service standards established under section 201 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012.”.

(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of section 206(a)(2), the term “continental United States” means the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia.

(3) SECTION 201.—Section 201 of this Act shall have no force or effect.

SA 2043. Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 208 and insert the following:

SEC. 208. TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY FUND.

Section 8348(h)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

“(B)(i) The Office shall—

“(I) redetermine the Postal surplus or supplemental liability as of the close of each of fiscal years 2007 through 2043; and

“(II) report the results of the redetermination for each such fiscal year, including appropriate supporting analyses and documentation, to the United States Postal Service on or before June 30 of the subsequent fiscal year.

“(ii) If the result of a redetermination under clause (i) is a supplemental liability, the Office shall establish an amortization schedule, including a series of annual installments commencing on September 30 of the subsequent fiscal year, that provides for the liquidation of such liability by September 30, 2043.

“(C)(i) Subject to clause (ii), if the result of a redetermination under subparagraph (B) for any of fiscal years 2013 through 2023 is a surplus, the amount of the surplus shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury.

“(ii) Not more than a total of \$8,900,000 shall be transferred under clause (i).”.

SA 2044. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States

Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PAYCHECK PROTECTION.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—The section may be cited as the “Paycheck Protection Act”.

(b) **RIGHT NOT TO SUBSIDIZE UNION NON-REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**—Title I of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (29 U.S.C. 411 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: **“SEC. 106. RIGHT NOT TO SUBSIDIZE UNION NON-REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

“No employee’s union dues, fees, or assessments or other contributions shall be used or contributed to any person, organization, or entity for any purpose not directly germane to the labor organization’s collective bargaining or contract administration functions unless the member, or nonmember required to make such payments as a condition of employment, authorizes such expenditure in writing, after a notice period of not less than 35 days. An initial authorization provided by an employee under the preceding sentence shall expire not later than 1 year after the date on which such authorization is signed by the employee. There shall be no automatic renewal of an authorization under this section.”.

SA 2045. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . RIGHT-TO-WORK.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “National Right-to-Work Act”.

(b) **AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT.**—

(1) **RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES.**—Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 157) is amended by striking “except to” and all that follows through “authorized in section 8(a)(3)”.

(2) **UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES.**—Section 8 of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “: *Provided, That*” and all that follows through “retaining membership”;

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking “or to discriminate” and all that follows through “retaining membership”; and

(ii) in paragraph (5), by striking “covered by an agreement authorized under subsection (a)(3) of this section”; and

(C) in subsection (f), by striking clause (2) and redesignating clauses (3) and (4) as clauses (2) and (3), respectively.

(c) **AMENDMENT TO THE RAILWAY LABOR ACT.**—Section 2 of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 152) is amended by striking paragraph Eleven.

SA 2046. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PAYCHECK PROTECTION.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—The section may be cited as the “Paycheck Protection Act”.

(b) **RIGHT NOT TO SUBSIDIZE UNION NON-REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**—Chapter 12 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 1210. RIGHT NOT TO SUBSIDIZE UNION NONREPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

“No Postal Service employee’s labor organization dues, fees, or assessments or other contributions shall be used or contributed to any person, organization, or entity for any purpose not directly germane to the labor organization’s collective bargaining or contract administration functions unless the member, or nonmember required to make such payments as a condition of employment, authorizes such expenditure in writing, after a notice period of not less than 35 days. An initial authorization provided by an employee under the preceding sentence shall expire not later than 1 year after the date on which such authorization is signed by the employee. There shall be no automatic renewal of an authorization under this section.”.

SA 2047. Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . CITIZEN’S SERVICE PROTECTION ADVOCATES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 417. Citizen’s service protection advocates

“(a) **APPOINTMENT OF ADVOCATE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The chief executive of a State affected by the closing or consolidation of a rural post office or postal facility (as defined in section 404(f)) may appoint a citizen’s service protection advocate to represent the interests of postal customers affected the closing or consolidation.

“(2) **CONSULTATION.**—In making an appointment under this subsection, the chief executive of a State shall consult with—

“(A) the mayor (or equivalent official) of any city affected by the closing or consolidation; and

“(B) the commissioner (or equivalent official) of any county or parish affected by the closing or consolidation.

“(b) **NOTICE.**—The Postal Service shall transmit to the chief executive of a State notice of any determination by the Postal Service to close or consolidate a rural post office or postal facility that affects postal customers in the State.

“(c) **ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), upon the request of any citizen’s service protection advocate appointed under this section, the Postal Service shall provide to the citizen’s service protection advocate—

“(A) access to any records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other materials of the Postal Service relating to the closing or consolidation of the relevant post office or postal facility; and

“(B) assistance in carrying out the duties of the citizen’s service protection advocate.

“(2) **PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.**—The Postal Service may not provide to a citizen’s service protection advocate any information, or compilation of information, that is a means of identification, as defined in section 1028(d)(7) of title 18, United States Code.

“(d) **COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION.**—The Postal Service shall—

“(1) provide for regular and efficient communication between a citizen’s service protection advocate and the officer or employee

of the Postal Service responsible for the closing or consolidation of the relevant post office or postal facility; and

“(2) consult with the citizen’s service protection advocate in developing and implementing service changes that affect postal customers affected by the closing or consolidation of the relevant post office or postal facility.

“(e) **TERMINATION OF SERVICE.**—An individual may not serve as a citizen’s service protection advocate with respect to the closing or consolidation of a rural post office or postal facility after the later of—

“(1) the date on which the Postal Service determines not to close or consolidate the rural post office or postal facility; and

“(2) the date on which the Postal Service determines to close or consolidate the rural post office or postal facility.”.

(b) **TABLE OF SECTIONS.**—The table of sections for chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“417. Citizen’s service protection advocate.”.

(c) **APPEAL TO THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION.**—

(1) **POSTAL FACILITIES.**—Section 404(f)(7) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this Act, is amended by inserting “or with the requirements of section 417 of this title” after “2012” each place that term appears.

(2) **POST OFFICES.**—Section 404(d)(5)(C) of title 39, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting “or with the requirements of section 417 of this title” after “2012”.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date on which the Postal Service establishes retail service standards under section 203.

SA 2048. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, add the following:

(g) **STUDY AND STRATEGIC PLAN ON INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS FOR RURAL POST OFFICES.**—

(1) **DUTIES OF ADVISORY COMMISSION.**—

(A) **STUDY.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The Advisory Commission shall conduct a study concerning the advisability of the Postal Service entering into inter-agency agreements with Federal, State, and local agencies, with respect to rural post offices, that—

(I) streamline services provided by the Federal, State, and local agencies;

(II) decrease the costs of the Federal, State, and local agencies; and

(III) maintain the customer service standards of the Federal, State, and local agencies.

(ii) **CLARIFICATION OF INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS.**—The study under clause (i) shall include consideration of the advisability of the Postal Service entering into an inter-agency agreement with—

(I) the Bureau of the Census for the provision of personnel and resources for the 2020 decennial census;

(II) the Social Security Administration for the provision of social security cards;

(III) the department of motor vehicles, or an equivalent agency, of each State for the provision of driver licenses, vehicle registration, and voter registration; and

(IV) the division of wildlife, the department of natural resources, or an equivalent agency, of each State for the provision of hunting and fishing licenses.

(B) STRATEGIC PLAN.—Upon completion of the study under subparagraph (A), the Advisory Commission shall develop a strategic plan for entering into inter-agency agreements concerning rural post offices.

(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Advisory Commission shall submit to the Postal Service a report that contains the results of the study under subparagraph (A) and the strategic plan under subparagraph (B).

(2) POSTAL SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the Advisory Commission submits to the Postal Service the report under paragraph (1)(C), the Postal Service shall submit to the Postal Regulatory Commission a strategic plan for entering into inter-agency agreements concerning rural post offices.

(B) LIMITATIONS.—The strategic plan submitted under subparagraph (A) shall be consistent with—

(i) the retail service standards established under section 203 of this Act; and

(ii) public interest and demand.

(C) VOTE BY POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Postal Service submits the strategic plan under subparagraph (A), the Postal Regulatory Commission shall, by a majority vote of the members of the Postal Regulatory Commission—

(i) approve the strategic plan, in whole or in part; or

(ii) disapprove the strategic plan.

(D) IMPLEMENTATION BY POSTAL SERVICE.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Postal Regulatory Commission votes on a strategic plan under subparagraph (C), the Postal Service shall implement the strategic plan as approved by the Postal Regulatory Commission under subparagraph (C)(i).

(E) DISAPPROVAL.—If the Postal Regulatory Commission disapproves a strategic plan under subparagraph (C)(ii), not later than 90 days after the date of the disapproval the Postal Service shall develop and submit an amended strategic plan that the Postal Regulatory Commission shall vote on in accordance with subparagraph (C).

(h) TERMINATION OF THE COMMISSION.—The Advisory Commission shall terminate 90 days after the later of—

(1) the date on which the Advisory Commission submits the report on the strategic blueprint for long-term solvency under subsection (f); and

(2) the date on which the Advisory Commission submits the report on the strategic plan on inter-agency agreements for rural post offices under subsection (g).

(i)

SA 2049. Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 106. SUPERVISORY AND OTHER MANAGERIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 1004 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), in the second sentence, by inserting “as provided under subsection (d) and any changes in, or termination of, pay policies and schedules and fringe benefit programs for members of the supervisors’ organization as provided under subsection (e)” before the period; and

(2) in subsection (e)(1), by inserting “, or termination of,” after “any changes in”.

SA 2050. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 48, strike line 3 and all that follows through the end of the matter between lines 5 and 6 on page 52.

SA 2051. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 39, strike line 20 and all that follows through page 45, line 17, and insert the following:

SEC. 205. OTHER PROVISIONS.

(a) FREQUENCY OF MAIL DELIVERY.—Section 101 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) Subject to the requirements of section 3661, nothing in this title or any other provision of law shall be construed to prevent the Postal Service from taking any action necessary to provide for a 5-day-per-week delivery schedule for mail and a commensurate adjustment in the schedule for rural delivery of mail.”.

(b) OVERALL VALUE OF FRINGE BENEFITS.—Section 1005(f) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking the last sentence.

(c) MODERN RATE REGULATION.—Section 3622(d) of title 39, United States Code, is repealed.

(d) DELIVERY SERVICE STANDARDS AND MAIL PROCESSING.—Sections 201 and 202 of this Act, and the amendments made by those sections, shall have no force or effect.

(e) HISTORIC POST OFFICES.—Section 404(d) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7)(A) In this paragraph, the term “historic post office building” means a post office building that is a certified historic structure, as that term is defined in section 47(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SA 2052. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 402 and insert the following:

SEC. 402. MINIMUM COST COVERAGE FOR MARKET-DOMINANT PRODUCTS.

Section 3622(d)(1) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) require that each class of domestic or outbound international mail bear the costs that are the sum of—

“(i) the direct and indirect postal costs attributable to the class of mail through reliably identified causal relationships; and

“(ii) that portion of all costs of the Postal Service other than the costs described in clause (i) that are reasonably assignable to the class of mail.”.

SA 2053. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 39, strike line 20 and all that follows through page 45, line 17, and insert the following:

SEC. 205. HISTORIC POST OFFICES.

(a) REPEALS.—Sections 201 and 202 of this Act, and the amendments made by those sections, shall have no force or effect.

(b) HISTORIC POST OFFICES.—Section 404(d) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7)(A) In this paragraph, the term “historic post office building” means a post office building that is a certified historic structure, as that term is defined in section 47(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SA 2054. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . . ALLOWANCE FOR VOLUME CHANGES IN ESTABLISHING THE PRICE CAP FOR BULK MARKET-DOMINANT PRODUCTS.

Section 3622(d)(1) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) include an annual limitation on the percentage changes in rates to be set by the Postal Regulatory Commission that—

“(i) except as provided in clause (ii), will be equal to the change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers unadjusted for seasonal variation over the most recent available 12-month period preceding the date the Postal Service files notice of its intention to increase rates; and

“(ii) for bulk products, shall be the rate described in clause (i), adjusted to reflect any estimated changes in unit costs due solely to changes in the volume of such products entered into the mail.”.

SA 2055. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 23, strike lines 7 through 24 and insert the following:

SEC. 106. ARBITRATION; LABOR DISPUTES.

Section 1207(c)(2) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “(A)” after “(2)”;

(2) by striking the last sentence and inserting “The arbitration board shall render a decision not later than 45 days after the date of its appointment.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) In rendering a decision under this paragraph, the arbitration board shall consider such relevant factors as—

“(i) the financial condition of the Postal Service;

“(ii) the requirements relating to pay and compensation comparability under section 1003(a); and

“(iii) the policies of this title.”.

SA 2056. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 205(a) and insert the following:

(a) CLOSING POST OFFICES.—Section 404(d) of title 39, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(d)(1) The Postal Service, prior to making a determination under subsection (a)(3) of this section as to the necessity for the closing or consolidation of any post office, shall—

“(A) consider whether—

“(i) to close the post office or consolidate the post office and another post office located within a reasonable distance;

“(ii) instead of closing or consolidating the post office—

“(I) to reduce the number of hours a day that the post office operates; or

“(II) to continue operating the post office for the same number of hours a day;

“(iii) to procure a contract providing full, or less than full, retail services in the community served by the post office; or

“(iv) to provide postal services to the community served by the post office through a rural carrier;

“(B) provide postal customers served by the post office an opportunity to participate in a nonbinding survey conducted by mail on a preference for an option described in subparagraph (A); and

“(C) if the Postal Service determines to close or consolidate the post office, provide adequate notice of its intention to close or consolidate such post office at least 60 days prior to the proposed date of such closing or consolidation to persons served by such post office to ensure that such persons will have an opportunity to present their views.

“(2) The Postal Service, in making a determination whether or not to close or consolidate a post office—

“(A) shall consider—

“(i) the effect of such closing or consolidation on the community served by such post office;

“(ii) the effect of such closing or consolidation on employees of the Postal Service employed at such office;

“(iii) whether such closing or consolidation is consistent with—

“(I) the policy of the Government, as stated in section 101(b) of this title, that the Postal Service shall provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services to rural areas, communities, and small towns where post offices are not self-sustaining; and

“(II) the retail service standards established under section 203 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012;

“(iv) the extent to which the community served by the post office lacks access to Internet, broadband and cellular phone service;

“(v) whether substantial economic savings to the Postal Service would result from such closing or consolidation; and

“(vi) such other factors as the Postal Service determines are necessary; and

“(B) may not consider compliance with any provision of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.).

“(3) Any determination of the Postal Service to close or consolidate a post office shall be in writing and shall include the findings of the Postal Service with respect to the considerations required to be made under paragraph (2) of this subsection. Such determination and findings shall be made available to persons served by such post office.

“(4) The Postal Service shall take no action to close or consolidate a post office until 60 days after its written determination is made available to persons served by such post office.

“(5) A determination of the Postal Service to close or consolidate any post office, station, branch, or facility may be appealed by any person served by such office, station, branch, or facility to the Postal Regulatory Commission within 30 days after such determination is made available to such person.

The Commission shall review such determination on the basis of the record before the Postal Service in the making of such determination. The Commission shall make a determination based upon such review no later than 120 days after receiving any appeal under this paragraph. The Commission shall set aside any determination, findings, and conclusions found to be—

“(A) arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with the law;

“(B) without observance of procedure required by law;

“(C) inconsistent with the delivery service standards required to be maintained under section 201 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012 or not in conformance with the retail service standards established under section 203 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012; or

“(D) unsupported by substantial evidence on the record, including that substantial economic savings are likely to be achieved as a result of the closing or consolidation.

The Commission may affirm or reverse the determination of the Postal Service or order that the entire matter be returned for further consideration, but the Commission may not modify the determination of the Postal Service. The determination of the Postal Service shall be suspended until the final disposition of the appeal. The provisions of section 556, section 557, and chapter 7 of title 5 shall not apply to any review carried out by the Commission under this paragraph.

“(6) For purposes of paragraph (5), any appeal received by the Commission shall—

“(A) if sent to the Commission through the mails, be considered to have been received on the date of the Postal Service postmark on the envelope or other cover in which such appeal is mailed; or

“(B) if otherwise lawfully delivered to the Commission, be considered to have been received on the date determined based on any appropriate documentation or other indicia (as determined under regulations of the Commission).

“(7) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the right under section 3662—

“(A) of an interested person to lodge a complaint with the Postal Regulatory Commission under section 3662 concerning non-conformance with service standards, including the retail service standards established under section 203 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012; or

“(B) of the Postal Regulatory Commission, if the Commission finds a complaint lodged by an interested person to be justified, to order the Postal Service to take appropriate action to achieve compliance with applicable requirements, including the retail service standards established under section 203 of the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012, or to remedy the effects of any noncompliance.”

SA 2057. Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 32, line 2, insert “within a district” after “locality”.

SA 2058. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. McCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal

Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 131, strike lines 21 through 23 and insert the following:

“(iv) to provide postal services to the community served by the post office—

“(I) through a rural carrier; or

“(II) by co-locating an employee of the Postal Service at a commercial or government entity;

SA 2059. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. McCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 121, strike line 22 and all that follows through page 128, line 10, and insert the following:

SEC. 201. POSTAL POLICY AND POWERS OF THE POSTAL SERVICE.

(a) POSTAL POLICY.—Section 101(b) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “a maximum degree of”; and

(2) by striking “where post offices” and all that follows through “a deficit”.

(b) POWERS OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.—Section 404(d)(2) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively;

(2) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) shall give primary consideration to whether such closing or consolidation is consistent with the intent of Congress, as stated in section 101(b), that the Postal Service shall provide effective and regular postal services to rural areas, communities, and small towns;”; and

(3) in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking clause (iii); and

(B) by redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively.

SA 2060. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and Mr. McCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ GOVERNMENT SPONSORED CONFERENCES.

(a) TRAVEL EXPENSES OF FEDERAL AGENCIES RELATING TO CONFERENCES.—

(1) LIMITATIONS AND REPORTS ON TRAVEL EXPENSES TO CONFERENCES.—Chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5711 the following:

“§ 5712. Limitations and reports on travel expenses to conferences

“(a) In this section, the term—

“(1) ‘conference’ means a meeting that—

“(A) is held for consultation, education, or discussion;

“(B) is not held entirely at an agency facility;

“(C) involves costs associated with travel and lodging for some participants; and

“(D) is sponsored by 1 or more agencies, 1 or more organizations that are not agencies, or a combination of such agencies or organizations; and

“(2) ‘international conference’ means a conference attended by representatives of —

“(A) the United States Government; and
 “(B) any foreign government, international organization, or foreign nongovernmental organization.

“(b) No agency may pay the travel expenses for more than 50 employees of that agency who are stationed in the United States, for any international conference occurring outside the United States, unless the Secretary of State determines that attendance for such employees is in the national interest.

“(c) At the beginning of each quarter of each fiscal year, each agency shall post on the public Internet website of that agency a report on each conference for which the agency paid travel expenses during the preceding 3 months that includes—

“(1) the itemized expenses paid by the agency, including travel expenses, the cost of scouting for and selecting the location of the conference, and any agency expenditures to otherwise support the conference;

“(2) the primary sponsor of the conference;

“(3) the location of the conference;

“(4) in the case of a conference for which that agency was the primary sponsor, a statement that—

“(A) justifies the location selected;

“(B) demonstrates the cost efficiency of the location; and

“(C) provides a cost benefit analysis of holding a conference rather than conducting a teleconference;

“(5) the date of the conference;

“(6) a brief explanation how the conference advanced the mission of the agency;

“(7) the title of any Federal employee or any individual who is not a Federal employee whose travel expenses or other conference expenses were paid by the agency; and

“(8) the total number of individuals whose travel expenses or other conference expenses were paid by the agency.

“(d) Each report posted on the public Internet website under subsection (c) shall—

“(1) be in a searchable electronic format; and

“(2) remain on that website for at least 5 years after the date of posting.”.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5711 the following:

“5712. Limitations and reports on travel expenses to conferences.”.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON ANNUAL TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of each of fiscal years 2012 through 2016, an agency (as defined under section 5701(1) of title 5, United States Code) may not make, or obligate to make, expenditures for travel expenses, in an aggregate amount greater than 80 percent of the aggregate amount of such expenses for fiscal year 2010.

(2) IDENTIFICATION OF TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Not later than September 1, 2012 and after consultation with the Administrator of General Services and the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall establish guidelines for the determination of what expenses constitute travel expenses for purposes of this subsection. The guidelines shall identify specific expenses, and classes of expenses, that are to be treated as travel expenses.

(c) CONFERENCE TRANSPARENCY AND LIMITATIONS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

(A) the term “agency” has the meaning given under section 5701(1) of title 5, United States Code; and

(B) the term “conference” has the meaning given under section 5712(a)(1) of that title (as added by subsection (a)).

(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF CONFERENCE MATERIALS.—Each agency shall post on the public Internet website of that agency a detailed information on any presentation made by any employee of that agency at a conference, including—

(A) any minutes relating to the presentation;

(B) any speech delivered;

(C) any visual exhibit, including photographs or slides;

(D) any video, digital, or audio recordings of the conference; and

(E) information regarding any financial support or other assistance from a foundation or other non-Federal source used to pay or defray the costs of the conference, which shall include a certification by the head of the agency that there is no conflict of interest resulting from the support received from each such source.

(3) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT EXPENDED ON A CONFERENCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—No agency may expend more than \$500,000 to support a single conference.

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to preclude an agency from receiving financial support or other assistance from a foundation or other non-Federal source to pay or defray the costs of a conference the total cost of which exceeds \$500,000.

(4) LIMITATION ON THE ANNUAL NUMBER OF CONFERENCES AN AGENCY MAY SUPPORT.—No agency may expend funds on more than a single conference sponsored or organized by an organization during any fiscal year, unless the agency is the primary sponsor and organizer of the conference.

SA 2061. Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. McCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . REQUIREMENT FOR RETIREMENT-ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES OF THE POSTAL SERVICE TO RETIRE.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “retirement-eligible employee”—

(1) means an employee of the Postal Service who meets the age and service requirements to retire on an immediate annuity under section 8336 or 8412 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) does not include an individual described in section 8336(d) or 8412(g) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) PROHIBITION.—On and after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a retirement-eligible employee may not perform service as an employee of the Postal Service.

SA 2062. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mrs. McCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . RURAL POST OFFICES.

Section 404(d) of title 39, United States Code, as amended by section 205 of this Act, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the first sentence, by inserting “and, with respect to a rural post office, a summary of the determinations required under paragraph (9)” after “paragraph (2) of this subsection”; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “determination and findings” and inserting “determination, findings, and summary”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) The Postal Service may not make a determination under subsection (a)(3) to close a post office located in a rural area, as defined by the Census Bureau, unless the Postal Service determines that—

“(A) seniors served by the post office would continue to receive the same or substantially similar access to prescription medication sent through the mail as before the closing;

“(B) businesses located in the community served by the post office would not suffer financial loss as a result of the closing;

“(C) the economic loss to the community served by the post office as a result of the closing does not exceed the cost to the Postal Service of not closing the post office;

“(D) the area served by the post office has adequate access to wired broadband Internet service, as identified on the National Broadband Map of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

“(E) seniors and persons with disabilities who live near the post office would continue to receive the same or substantially similar access to postal services as before the closing; and

“(F) the closing would not result in more than 10 miles distance (as measured on roads with year-round access) between any 2 post offices.”.

SA 2063. Mrs. McCASKILL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 88, strike line 4 and all that follows through page 90, line 3, and insert the following:

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(A) COVERED RECIPIENTS WHO ARE RETIREMENT AGE, HAVE AN EXEMPT DISABILITY CONDITION, OR FACE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a covered claim for total disability by an employee if the employee—

“(i) on the date of enactment of the Workers’ Compensation Reform Act of 2012, has attained retirement age;

“(ii) is an individual who has an exempt disability condition; or

“(iii) is a member of a household that would meet the income and assets requirements for eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program as described in section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) (not including any provisions permitting eligibility due to benefits received under any other law) if the basic compensation for total disability of the employee were provided in accordance with paragraph (1).

“(B) TRANSITION PERIOD FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES.—For a covered claim for total disability by an employee who is not an employee described in subparagraph (A), the employee shall receive the basic compensation for total disability provided under subsection (a) until the later of—

“(i) the date on which the employee attains retirement age; and

“(ii) the date that is 3 years after the date of enactment of the Workers’ Compensation Reform Act of 2012.”.

(3) PARTIAL DISABILITY.—Section 8106 is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “If” and inserting “IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), if”;

(B) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) CONVERSION OF ENTITLEMENT AT RETIREMENT AGE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the basic compensation for partial disability for an employee who has attained retirement age shall be 50 percent of the difference between the monthly pay of the employee and the monthly wage-earning capacity of the employee after the beginning of the partial disability.

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(A) COVERED RECIPIENTS WHO ARE RETIREMENT AGE OR FACE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a covered claim for partial disability by an employee if the employee—

“(i) on the date of enactment of the Workers’ Compensation Reform Act of 2012, has attained retirement age; or

“(ii) is a member of a household that would meet the income and assets requirements for eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program as described in section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) (not including any provisions permitting eligibility due to benefits received under any other law) if the basic compensation for total disability of the employee were provided in accordance with paragraph (1).

SA 2064. Mrs. MCCASKILL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 134, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 314. TERRORISM INJURIES; ZONES OF ARMED CONFLICT.

(a) COVERING TERRORISM INJURIES.—Section 8102(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(1) by inserting “or from an attack by a terrorist or terrorist organization, either known or unknown,” after “force or individual,”; and

(2) by striking “outside” and all that follows through “1979” and inserting “outside of the United States”.

(b) CONTINUATION OF PAY IN A ZONE OF ARMED CONFLICT.—Section 8118 of title 5, United States Code, as amended by section 308(b) of this Act, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “Continuation” and inserting “Except as provided under subsection (d)(2), continuation”;

(2) in subsection (c), as redesignated by section 308(b)(4) of this Act, by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsection (a) or (d)”;

(3) by redesignating subsection (d), as redesignated by section 308(b)(4) of this Act, as subsection (e); and

(4) inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) CONTINUATION OF PAY IN A ZONE OF ARMED CONFLICT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the United States shall authorize the continuation of pay of an employee described in subparagraph (A), (C), (D), or (F) of section 8101(1), who—

“(A) files a claim for a period of wage loss due to an injury in performance of duty in a zone of armed conflict (as determined by the Secretary of Labor under paragraph (3)); and

“(B) files the claim for such wage loss benefit with the immediate superior of the employee not later than 45 days after the later of—

“(i) the termination of the assignment of the employee to the zone of armed conflict; or

“(ii) the return of the employee to the United States.

“(2) CONTINUATION OF PAY.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), continuation of pay under this subsection shall be furnished for a period not to exceed 135 days without any break in time or waiting period, unless controverted under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor.

“(3) DETERMINATION OF ZONES OF ARMED CONFLICT.—For purposes of this subsection, the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, shall determine whether a foreign country or other foreign geographic area outside of the United States (as defined in section 202(a)(7) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 4302(a)(7))) is a zone of armed conflict based on whether—

“(A) the Armed Forces of the United States are involved in hostilities in the country or area;

“(B) the incidence of civil insurrection, civil war, terrorism, or wartime conditions threatens physical harm or imminent danger to the health or well-being of United States civilian employees in the country or area;

“(C) the country or area has been designated a combat zone by the President under section 112(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

“(D) a contingency operation involving combat operations directly affects civilian employees in the country or area; or

“(E) there exist other relevant conditions and factors.”.

SA 2065. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 140, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

(d) TEMPORARY AUTHORITY TO ADJUST FIRST-CLASS MAIL STAMP RATE.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding the annual limitation on the percentage changes in rates established under section 3622(d)(1)(A) of title 39, United States Code, the Postal Service may, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, establish a rate for the first ounce of a single-piece first-class letter that is not more than the greater of—

(A) 50 cents; or

(B) the rate otherwise authorized to be established under section 3622 of title 39, United States Code.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Postal Service, in consultation with the Commission, shall establish a projected annual schedule for the increase in the rate for the first ounce of a single-piece first-class letter authorized under paragraph (1) using—

(A) any authority to increase rates that the Postal Service expects to receive under section 3622(d)(1)(A) of title 39, United States Code;

(B) any unused rate adjustment authority, as defined in section 3622(d)(2)(C) of title 39, United States Code, that the Postal Service anticipates using; and

(C) any actions the Postal Service plans to take to enable the Postal Service to use the authority under paragraph (1) in a predictable and stable manner.

(3) NO EFFECT ON OTHER RATES.—The Commission may not refer to or rely on a decision by the Postal Service to exercise the authority under paragraph (1) for the purpose of determining whether any other rate (including any other first-class mail rate) complies with the requirements of title 39, United States Code.

(4) DISCOUNT CALCULATION.—Section 3622(e)(1) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by inserting after “under subsection (a)” the following: “, except that the Commission shall not consider the rates for presorted first-class mail to be a discount from the rates for single-piece first-class mail”.

SA 2066. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . . . EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

(a) LIMIT ON MAXIMUM COMPENSATION.—

(1) NUMBER OF EXECUTIVES.—Section 3686(c) of title 39, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence by striking “12 officers” and inserting “6 officers”.

(2) INTERIM LIMITATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), and notwithstanding section 3686(c) of title 39, United States Code, as amended by this Act, for 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015, the total compensation of an officer or employee of the Postal Service may not exceed the annual amount of basic pay payable for level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of title 5.

(B) PERFORMANCE BASED COMPENSATION RELATING TO SOLVENCY PLAN.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Any compensation relating to achieving the goals established under the plan under section 401 shall not apply toward the limit on compensation under subparagraph (A).

(ii) OTHER LIMITATIONS APPLY.—Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to modify the limitation on compensation under subsections (b) and (c) of section 3686 of title 39, United States Code, as amended by this Act.

(b) CARRY OVER COMPENSATION.—The Postal Service may not pay compensation for service performed during a year (in this subsection referred to as the “base year”) in any subsequent year if the total amount of compensation provided relating to service during the base year would exceed the amount specified under section 3686(c) of title 39, United States Code, as amended by this Act, or subsection (a)(2), as applicable.

(c) BENEFITS.—Section 1003 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) LIMITATIONS ON BENEFITS.—For any fiscal year, an officer or employee of the Postal Service who is in a critical senior executive or equivalent position, as designated under section 3686(c), may not receive fringe benefits (within the meaning given that term under section 1005(f)) that are greater than the fringe benefits received by supervisory and other managerial personnel who are not subject to collective-bargaining agreements under chapter 12.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall—

(1) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) apply to any contract entered or modified by the Postal Service on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2067. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ADJUSTMENT TO METHOD FOR CALCULATING PAYMENTS BY POSTAL SERVICE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

Section 8423(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) in paragraph (1)—
- (A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting “or subparagraph (C)” after “subparagraph (B)”;
- (B) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: “; and”;

- (C) by adding at the end the following:
 - “(C) the product of—
 - “(i) the normal-cost percentage, as determined for employees of the United States Postal Service under paragraph (5), multiplied by
 - “(ii) the aggregate amount of basic pay payable by the United States Postal Service, for the period involved, to employees of the United States Postal Service.”; and

- (2) by adding at the end the following:
 - “(5)(A) In determining the normal cost percentage for employees of the United States Postal Service, the Office shall use—
 - “(i) demographic factors specific to such employees, unless such data cannot be generated; and
 - “(ii) economic assumptions regarding increases in rates of basic pay that reflect the specific past and likely future pay increases for such employees.

- “(B) Upon request of the Office, the United States Postal Service shall provide any data or projections the Office may require in order to determine the normal cost percentage for employees of the United States Postal Service consistent with subparagraph (A).
- “(C) The United States Postal Service may appeal any determination by the Office to the Board of Actuaries of the Civil Service Retirement System pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.”.

SA 2068. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 208, add the following:

- (f) ELECTION PERIODS.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3691 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:
 - “(e) MAIL DELIVERY DURING ELECTION PERIODS.—

- “(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered election’ means a Federal, State, or local election in which individuals eligible to vote in the election are permitted or required to vote by mail.
- “(2) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), during the 30-day period ending on the date of a covered election, the Postal Service shall provide delivery 6 days per week to each individual who is permitted or required to vote by mail (including by use of an absentee ballot) in the covered election.

- “(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (2) shall not apply with respect to any route for which the Postal Service provided delivery on fewer than 6 days per week as of December 1, 2011.”.

(2) CHANGE TO SCHEDULE.—A plan established under subsection (a)(2) shall comply with section 3691(e) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this subsection.

SA 2069. Mr. ALEXANDER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 147, line 22, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

- “(4) In this subsection, the term ‘laws and regulations’ includes any licensing, permitting, recordkeeping, or reporting obligation.”.

SA 2070. Mr. ALEXANDER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 147, line 22, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

- “(4) In this subsection, the term ‘laws and regulations’ includes any licensing, permitting, recordkeeping, or reporting obligation.”.

SA 2071. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

- SEC. ____ . RETIREMENT REPORTING.**
- (a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “agency” has the meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.
- (b) REPORTS.—Not later than June 1, 2012, and every month thereafter, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress, the Comptroller General of the United States, and issue publicly (including on the website of the Office of Personnel Management) a report that—

- (1) for each agency, evaluates the timeliness, completeness, and accuracy of information submitted by the agency relating to employees of the agency who are retiring;
- (2) indicates—

- (A) the total number of applications for retirement benefits that are pending action by the Office of Personnel Management; and
- (B) the number of months each such application has been pending; and

- (3) provides a timetable for completion of each component of the retirement systems modernization project of the Office of Personnel Management, including all data elements required for accurate completion of adjudication and the date (which shall be not later than January 31, 2013) by which all Federal payroll processing entities will electronically transmit all personnel data to the Office of Personnel Management.
- (c) BUDGET REQUEST.—The Office of Personnel Management shall include a detailed statement regarding the progress of the Office of Personnel Management in completing the retirement systems modernization project of the Office of Personnel Management in each budget request of the Office of Personnel Management submitted as part of the preparation of the budget of the President submitted to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

- (1) for each agency, evaluates the timeliness, completeness, and accuracy of information submitted by the agency relating to employees of the agency who are retiring;
- (2) indicates—
- (A) the total number of applications for retirement benefits that are pending action by the Office of Personnel Management; and
- (B) the number of months each such application has been pending; and
- (3) provides a timetable for completion of each component of the retirement systems modernization project of the Office of Personnel Management, including all data elements required for accurate completion of adjudication and the date (which shall be not later than January 31, 2013) by which all Federal payroll processing entities will electronically transmit all personnel data to the Office of Personnel Management.
- (c) BUDGET REQUEST.—The Office of Personnel Management shall include a detailed statement regarding the progress of the Office of Personnel Management in completing the retirement systems modernization project of the Office of Personnel Management in each budget request of the Office of Personnel Management submitted as part of the preparation of the budget of the President submitted to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

SA 2072. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed

by her to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 32, line 15, insert “(F) the effect of the closing or consolidation on small businesses in the area, including shipping and communications with customers and suppliers and the corresponding impact on revenues, operations, and growth; and”, strike “(F)” and insert “(G)” before the clause that follows.

On page 41, line 11, insert “(ii) the effect of the closing or consolidation on small businesses in the area, including shipping and communications with customers and suppliers and the corresponding impact on revenues, operations, and growth; and”, strike “(ii)” and insert “(iii)” before the clause that follows.

On page 53, line 1, strike “customers and communities” and insert “customers, communities, and small businesses”.

On page 57, line 3, strike “customers and communities” and insert “customers, communities, and small businesses”.

SA 2073. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 23, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

- (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section may be construed to authorize the Postal Service to require a Postal Service employee or annuitant (as defined in section 8903c of title 5, United States Code, as added by this section) to enroll in Medicare.

SA 2074. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 14, strike line 15 and all that follows through page 16, line 7, and insert the following:

- (B) be available for participation by any officer or employee of the Postal Service who is not a covered employee;
- (C) provide benefits comparable to the Federal Employee Health Benefits Plan, as determined by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management;
- (D) be administered in a manner determined in a joint agreement reached under subsection (b); and
- (E) provide for transition of coverage under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program of all officers and employees of the Postal Service to coverage under the Postal Service Health Benefits Program on January 1, 2013;

- (2) shall include a program through which officers and employees of the Postal Service may obtain dental benefits; and
- (3) shall include a program through which officers and employees of the Postal Service may obtain vision benefits.

- (d) AGREEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION.—If a joint agreement is reached under subsection (b)—
- (1) the Postal Service shall implement the Postal Service Health Benefits Program;
- (2) the Postal Service Health Benefits Program shall constitute an agreement between the collective bargaining representatives and the Postal Service for purposes of section 1005(f) of title 39, United States Code; and

(3) officers and employees of the Postal Service may not participate as employees in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

(e) GOVERNMENT PLAN.—The Postal Service Health Benefits Program shall be a government plan as that term is defined under section 3(32) of Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(32)).

(f) REPORT.—Not later than June 30, 2013, the Postal Service shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives that—

(1) reports on the implementation of this section; and

(2) requests any additional statutory authority that the Postal Service determines is necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(g) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as an endorsement by Congress for withdrawing officers and employees of the Postal Service from the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program.

SA 2075. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 4. CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK COMMISSION.

Section 6(g) of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act (16 U.S.C. 410y-4(g)) is amended by striking “40” and inserting “50”.

SA 2076. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1789, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 48, line 2, after “State.” insert the following: “An employee designated under this subsection to represent the needs of Postal Service customers in a State shall be located in that State.”

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on April 19, 2012, in room SD-628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “S. 1684, the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2011.”

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224-2251.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in executive session on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at 10 a.m. in SD-106 to mark-up S. _____, the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act; and, any nominations cleared for action.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the committee at (202) 224-7675.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 10 a.m. in Dirksen 406 to conduct a hearing entitled, “Oversight Hearing on the General Services Administration (GSA).”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 10 a.m., to hold a briefing entitled “Intelligence Update on Iran and Syria.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 2:15 p.m., to hold an African Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled “Examining the U.S. Policy Response to Entrenched African Leadership.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Effective Strategies for Accelerated Learning” on April 18, 2012, at 10 a.m., in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Nominations to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 10 a.m., in room 432 of the Russell Senate Office building to conduct a roundtable entitled “Perspec-

tives from the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem: Creating Jobs and Growing Businesses through Entrepreneurship.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE, CUSTOMS AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness of the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 2 p.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “The Asia Pacific: Trade Opportunities for Agriculture and Food Producers from the Great Plains to the Pacific Northwest.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND MERCHANT MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY, AND SECURITY

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 10 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, “Protecting Commuters: Ensuring Accountability and Oversight in Tolling.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2012, at 2 p.m. in room 216 of the Hart Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled: “The Future of Long-Term Care: Saving Money by Service Seniors.”